

June 25, 1967

Mr. Richard Salant
President, CBS News
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Salant,

Having just viewed the first of your four-part commentary on the Warren Report, I write to ask for time to correct its inaccuracies and unfairnesses under the "fairness doctrine".

I must acknowledge that of what has appeared in the newspapers and on TV lately, this program was far and away the least unfair. However, that is not saying enough for it remains both unfair in general and in particular unfair to me. It was stretched, twisted and edited to constitute a defense of the government and an attack on the critics, of whom I am senior. It was unfair to me because of all those things generally attributed to "critics" I recall but a single thing that does not come from my work. Your people read the limited edition of my first book in March of 1966, well before any other book on this subject was published. As a matter of fact, as of today this book is still the only one to rest itself entirely to the Commission's own evidence.

Your singling out Larry Schiller for telecasting and crediting brackets with your quite unfair and entirely anonymous reference to the "one" critic who says the camera was exposing film at 24 fps, not 18. By pretending to test this, which you did not, you are even more unfair. And until you can with positiveness say that my evidence that the camera was exposing film at 24 fps rather than 18, all the tests you make are pointless if you make them with cameras exposing film at the rate of "normal", of about 16 intended frames per second.

Further, what you attribute to Doctor Alvarez was, to the knowledge of CBS, in my work, completed in mid-February 1965 and read by you a year later.

Whether or not your intent was to be unfair, that is the effect. I know that CBS spent a lot of time working on this subject. All of the time all of your people devoted to it is but a tiny fraction of what I have invested. Believing this, I can understand that there is much you do know know. That is no excuse for inaccuracy or unfairness, because my work was offered to you, read by you, and my services were available, as was my knowledge.

Some of the error is so simple there is little excuse for it if you were devils advocating yourself. If you say that the President was shot at about frame 186 and the first shot missed and the third of the only three exploded in the President's head and did nothing else, there remains only the frame 186 bullet to have caused all five of Governor Connally's wounds. At frame 186 this was entirely impossible.

And the Commission did so say that Oswald was alone: "The shots which killed President Kennedy and wounded Governor Connally were fired by Lee Harvey Oswald" (R19).

Sincerely yours,